GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:991
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL WATERWAYS
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by the Government in developing the major waterways identified for development by National Transport Policy Committee;

(b) whether the Government have received any report from FICCI in relation to expediting work on these inland waterways project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (MAJOR GEN.(RETD KHANDURI, AVSM)

(a): Based on information obtained from Ministry of Shipping and Inland Waterways Authority of India the National Transport Policy Committee (NTPC) had identified the following waterways for consideration as National Waterways.

1. Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System

2. The Brahmaputra

3. The West Coast Canal

4. The Sunderbans

5. The Godavari
6. The Krishna

7 The Mahanadi

8. The Narmada

9. The Mandovi, Zuari River and Cumberjua Canal in Goa
10. The Tapi

At present, the following three waterways have been declared as National Waterways:-

National Waterway No.-1

Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly from Allahabad to Haldia (1620 Kms)

National Waterway No.-2

The Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri (891 Kms)

National Waterway No.-3

The West Coast Canal in Kerala from Kollam to Kottapuram along with Champakkara and Udyogmandal Canals (205 Kms.)

Techno-economic feasibility studies of the Sunderbans, Krishna, Godavari and Mahanadi Delta have been conducted and declaration of these waterways as National Waterways would be subject to availability of funds.

As for Narmada, four dams are being constructed on it and viability of navigability will depend on post dam scenario.

As far as Mandovi, Zuari rivers are concerned, the State Govt. of Goa agreed in principle for declaration as a National Waterways but they could not sort out the revenue sharing issues and hence the proposal could not progress.

Tidal portion of the river Tapi from sea up to Surat has already been developed by Private Sector. Upstream of Surat, with limited availability of water, navigation development is not considered viable as of now.

(b): No, Sir.

(c) & (d):Does not arise.